



## **SHORT BOARD MEETING**

**Saturday 13 September 2024**  
**SUMMARY NOTES**

This was a short Board meeting held after the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Walsall, West Midlands.

### **Minutes of the Board meeting 11 July 2024**

The minutes of the Board meeting held on Thursday 11 July were reviewed and approved by Trustees. There were no amendments.

### **Report from the National Treasurer as of 31 May 2024**

The Board reviewed and approved the National Treasurer's report. Kripen Dhrona, CEO acknowledged the Fellowship had been fortunate to receive several large legacies this year, but it should be mindful when planning for the future that these may not continue.

### **Appointment of Officers**

The Board elected Trustees into the following roles:

- Gordon Richardson was re-elected as National Chair.
- Terry Blackman was re-elected as National Treasurer.
- Jerry Hutchinson asked to step down as Vice-Chair but wished to remain a Trustee.
- Linda Davis was elected as Vice-Chair.
- Mike Harper was elected as Deputy Vice-Chair.

The Board formally thanked Jerry Hutchinson for his contribution to the Fellowship over the last few years, in the post of Vice-Chair.

### **CEO Operations Update**

**Heating Grants:** Kripen explained to the Board the changes the Labour Government has made to this year's Winter Fuel Payment. The announcement about the changes arrived after the Fellowship had formally launched its Winter Warmth Appeal. There will not therefore be enough funds available to make the Heating Grant available to everyone affected. This position will be reviewed next year.

The Fellowship is speaking with Age UK and other organisations to lobby the Government to ensure people with long-term conditions are exempt from losing the Winter Fuel Payment.

Kripen will provide a template letter that can be sent to MPs asking to support this campaign. The Fellowship will try and help those members who are no longer eligible for the Heating Grant and have exhausted all other options.

### **European Polio Union (EPU)**

Next year's AGM is expected to be in Spain. The Fellowship will aim to secure the AGM in 2026 for London.

**Optimal Clinical Pathway**

A Parliamentary event in Westminster will be held on Wednesday 23 October to raise awareness of the Pathway and call on MPs to show their support.

**Any Other Business**

The Big Survey for Members will be carried out again next year. Focus meetings will be held to determine what questions should be asked as part of the survey.

**Next Board meeting**

The next Board meeting will be held online on Saturday 23 November.